Local purchase of CGHS medicines

862. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that more than 80 per cent of the medicines are purchased by CGHS from local chemists instead of by the Medical Store Organization which is an authorized agency for the purchase of medicine for CGHS dispensaries;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government propose to direct the CGHS to purchase more medicines through Medical Store Organization so as to minimize its expenditure; and

(d) if so, by when and if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (d) Bulk Procurement of medicines in CGHS is done through Hospital Services Consultancy Corporation (HSCC) for CGHS Delhi and for other cities through the Medical Store Organization (MSO) against rate finalized by the MSO. Only those medicines that are prescribed and are not available in the dispensary store are indented for supply by the authorized local chemists.

Disposal of used syringes

863. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:

SHRI AMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that about 4.25 lakhs syringes which are discarded in the hospitals in the N.C.T of Delhi daily, only 30 per cent are incinerated and destroyed and the rest come into circulation as per study conducted by N.G.O. Vetavaran which conducted studies on the waste disposal machines in City Hospitals;

(b) whether it is also a fact that 90 per cent of the discarded gloves are sold in the market for use in the small nursing homes; and

(c) if so, what is Government's reaction in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) Health being a State subject, such information is not centrally maintained. The State Pollution Control Board in respect of States and Pollution Control Committee in respect of UTs are the prescribed authorities to implement and enforce Bio-Medical Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 1998 and amendments thereof.

In so far as Central Government hospitals are concerned, the Bio-Medical Waste including the syringes and gloves are disposed as per the Bio-Medical Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 1998.

First aid service by safai karamcharies

864. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in trauma centres of AIIMS, Safai Karamcharies have found giving first aid and treatment to patients;

(b) if so, details thereof and reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that doctor incharge approve this role of Safai Karamcharies; and

(d) if so, who will be responsible for any mishap?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) No, Sir. Giving first aid and treatment to patients by Safai Karamcharies does not arise.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

Organ trade in India

865. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to bring in stringent measures to control organ trade in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) how far will this action plan deter the foreigners coming to India for organ transplantation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) The Honorable High Court of Delhi in CWP No.813/2004 *vide* its order dated 06.09.2004 had set up a Committee to examine the provisions of Transplantation of Human Organs Act, 1994 and the Transplantation of Human Organs Rules, 1995. The report was submitted on 25.05.2005. A National Consultation was held on 18.05.2007 and the report was submitted in the second fortnight of August, 2007. The recommended changes required amendments in the Transplantation of Human Organs Act, 1994 (THOA) and the Rules framed thereunder. The amended Rules have been notified *vide* Gazette Notification No.G.S.R.571(E) dated 04.08.08. These changes are intended to facilitate genuine cases and to increase transparency in transplantation procedures.

In so far as foreign nationals coming to India for organ transplantation is concerned, such cases could be deterred by routing all such requests for organ transplantation through the Authorization Committees and by prohibiting organ transplantation where the recipient is a foreign national and the donor is an Indian national. This would, however, require amendments to THOA. As the law stands today, cases of near relatives are not required to be processed through the Authorization Committees.

Low sex ratio in Delhi

866. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that female foeticide still continues in a big way in Delhi leading to alarming low sex ratio in the capital, according to a study conducted by an NGO and supported by the Centre;